

S/N 10/798,149

PATENT**RECEIVED**
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APR 26 2007REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested. Claims 1-13 remain pending.

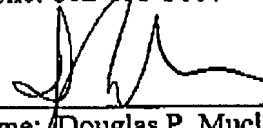
Claims 1-13 were rejected as unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,939,642 (Asahina et al.) in view of U.S. Patent 5,780,180 (Okamoto et al.) in further view of U.S. Patent Application 2004/0137320 (Komori et al.). Komori has an effective prior art date no earlier than the June 26, 2003 filing date of the application that is the subject of the publication. The present application claims a 35 USC 119 priority date of March 14, 2003. The verified translation of the priority application was filed previously; a copy is filed herewith for the Examiner's ease of reference. Therefore, Komori does not qualify as prior art and the rejection should be withdrawn. Applicants are not conceding the correctness of the rejection.

In view of the above, Applicants request reconsideration of the application in the form of a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: April 26, 2007

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